

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AF-04 EA-07 EUR-10 NEA-06 RSC-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0657

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: XV, TGEN, CI

SUBJ: ANTARCTIC TREATY EIGHTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING

REF: STATE 183373

1. FONMIN OFFICIALS OCT 7 INFORMED EMBOFF THEY WILL WISH TO BEGIN PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF LATER IN MONTH ON EIGHTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN OSLO IN APRIL 1975. THEY HAVE IN MIND PRINCIPALLY US-CHILEAN COOPERATION IN POSTPONING MEETING UNTIL AFTER 1975 LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE, AND IN ENSURING THAT AGENDA INCLUDE ITEM ON EFFECTS OF MINERAL EXPLORATION.

2. CHILEANS WOULD LIKE MEETING POSTPONED UNTIL NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1975, WHICH IS LATEST THEY BELIEVE LOS CONFERENCE COULD RUN

.
THEY GIVE THREE REASONS FOR POSTPONEMENT: (1) FOR MANY COUNTRIES, EXPORTS ON LOS AND ANTARCTICA ARE THE SAME. CHILE CANNOT ADEQUATELY MOUNT BOTH DELEGATIONS AT ONCE. (2) ANTARCTICA MEETING IN APRIL MIGHT BE INCONCLUSIVE, SINCE SUBJECTS IT WILL TREAT COULD BE AFFECTED BY RESULTS OF LOS CONFERENCE. (3) COOPERATION

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AT LOS CONFERENCE AMONG COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN ANTARCTICA MEETING COULD ENHANCE POSSIBILITIES OF SUCCESS AT OSLO.

3. FONMIN OFFICIALS ALSO WANT TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH US IN ANTARCTICA, AND TO INDICATE THEIR DESIRE FOR CONSULTATION ON NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION EXPEDITION IN DRAKE STRAIT.

4. COMMENT. FONMIN OFFICIALS APPARENTLY INTEND FIRST MEETING TO BE INFORMATIVE, SO INSTRUCTIONS WILL NOT BE NEEDED. DEPARTMENT'S GENERAL GUIDANCE WOULD BE WELCOME, HOWEVER, IF IT COULD ARRIVE IN WEEK OR TEN DAYS.
POPPER

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